

Robert Butler to Andrew Jackson, April 20, 1817, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

COLONEL ROBERT BUTLER TO JACKSON.¹

¹ This letter indicates the final phase in the life of the famous horse Truxton. The postmark was "Pinckneyville, Mississippi Territory".

Woodstock, April 20, 1817.

My Dear Sir. I drop you a hasty line, to Inform you of the Safe arrival, of Truxton. I met him at Ft. Adams, landing yesterday. My friend at Natchez, recd. him there of Mr. Hamilton and forwarded him *on* a favourable oppty. offering, by water. It is with great pleasure I have it to State to you the old *Cock* is in, good order and plight, considering, the length of time, he has been on the water, he has a little cough, which, I presume, green food will immediately remove, with moderate exercise and the care, that shall be taken of him. Mr. Hamilton, I think has done his duty towards the Horse; I am sorry I could not see Mr. H. My friend at Natchez writes me, he comes no furthe[r].

My Dr Genl. I feel under great obligations to you for, this *Horse* of *Horses* . I certainly, never beheld, a more noble animal of the species I shall cherish him and *pet* him as a great favourite, so long as he lives—he arrives in good, time for my mares—they have just commenc'd to drop their foals. I will use my best endeavours, to raise you a couple of war Horses, by the commencement of the *next war* , which I think will be in about five years hence, when I promise you also to serve by your side, should such an event occur. I shall

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ever *regrett* and *deplore* whilst I live, that we were not personally acquainted before the opening of the last war.